

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EAE-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05  
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07  
FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04  
TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01 NRC-05 DLOS-09 /127 W  
-----131104Z 046836 /10

P R 130835Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8572  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING  
CINCPAC HONOLULU  
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, ENRG, PLOS, JA, US, UR, CH, ASEAN  
SUBJECT: FUKUDA PRESS CONFERENCE

SUMMARY. IN WIDE-RANGING PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 10,  
PRIMIN FUKUDA COMMENTED ON NEARLY ALL PRESSING  
DIPLOMATIC AND DOMESTIC ISSUES. ON REPROCESSING,  
PRIMIN SAID IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING COMPLETION OF US  
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SURVEY TEAM INSPECTION OF TOKAI MURA WAS RECONDITION  
FOR OPERATION. END SUMMARY.

1. FUKUDA'S PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 10 TOUCHED ON BROAD  
RANGE OF TOPICS, INCLUDING NUCLEAR FUEL REPROCESSING,  
SOVIET AND CHINESE RELATIONS, DOMESTIC POLITICS AND  
STATE OF ECONOMY.

TO GENERAL QUESTION ON REPROCESSING, FUKUDA GAVE DETAILED ANSWER. HE STRESSED JAPAN'S DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN ENERGY SOURCES, NOTED FINITE RESOURCE AVAILABILITIES AND TIME REQUIRED TO DEVELOP SOLAR AND OTHER ENERGY SOURCES, AND CONCLUDED JAPAN WILL DEFINITELY NEED NUCLEAR ENERGY. SAYING HE FULLY SHARED PRESIDENT'S NON-PROLIFERATION CONCERNS, FUKUDA SAID DURING HIS MARCH US VISIT, HE REMINDED PRESIDENT THAT JAPAN SOLE NATION TO EXPERIENCE ATOMIC BOMBING AND THAT JAPAN'S THREE NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES (NO MANUFACTURE, NO POSSESSION, NO INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS) HAD FORCE OF CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS. FUKUDA SAID PRESIDENT SHOWED UNDERSTANDING OF JAPAN'S POSITION. FUKUDA THEN RECOUNTED THAT HE APPROACHED PRESIDENT TWICE ON ISSUE DURING COURSE OF DOWNING STREET SUMMIT AND AGAIN PRESIDENT APPEARED TO RECOGNIZE NECESSITY OF JAPAN'S HAVING NUCLEAR RECYCLE SYSTEM. FUKUDA SAID HE EXPLAINED TO PRESIDENT THAT WORKING-LEVEL US NEGOTIATORS APPEARED NOT TO SHARE PRESIDENT'S UNDERSTANDING OF JAPAN'S POSITION AND THAT NUCLEAR ENERGY WAS MATTER OF "LIFE OR DEATH" FOR JAPAN. FUKUDA SAID JAPAN AEC CHAIRMAN NIISED, JUST RETURNED FROM SECOND ROUND OF WASHINGTON TALKS, TOLD EQECUS TECHNICAL-SURVEY TEAM WOULD EXAMINE TOKAI REPROCESSING PLANT FOR PLUTONIUM SAFETY MEASURES. HE THEN ADDED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT SURVEY-TEAM INSPECTION WAS PRECONDITION FOR TOKAI MURA OPERATION.

2. ON JAPAN-SOVIET FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS, FUKUDA ASSERTED JAPAN HAD SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED AGREEMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHILE MAINTAINING DISTINCTION BETWEEN FISHING RIGHTS AND TERRITORIAL RIGHTS. SOVIETS, AS EXPECTED, HE SAID, WERE "HIGH HANDED" AND TOUGH, BUT JAPAN HAD GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH USSR EXCEPT ON TERRITORIAL ISSUE, ON WHICH THERE WOULD BE NO RETREAT. DESCRIBING FOUR ISLANDS WHICH CONSTITUTE JAPANESE "NORTHERN TERRITORIES" AS BEING "ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED" BY SOVIETS, PRIMIN REJECTED OUT OF HAND TWO-STAGE APPROACH WHEREBY JAPAN WOULD FIRST GET TWO ISLANDS AND THEN SEEK REMAINING TWO.

3. ON PENDING JAPAN-CHINA PEACE-AND-FRIENDSHIP TREATY, PRIMIN DENIED THAT HE HAD RECENTLY RETREATED ON ISSUE. NOTING HIS CABINET WAS ONLY FIVE MONTHS OLD, HE SAID HE HAD BEEN TOO BUSY WITH OTHER ISSUES TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY PEACE-AND-FRIENDSHIP TREATY. IN OTHER PORTIONS OF RESPONSE HE SAID TIME WAS NOT YET RIPE, THAT HE HAD NOT MADE UP HIS MIND ON HEGEMONY CLAUSE, AND THAT IT WAS NOT APPROPRIATE TIME TO REVEAL HIS THINKING ON ISSUE. HE CONFIRMED THAT HE HAS NO PLAN TO VISIT PRC.

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4. PRIMIN SAID HE HAD ACCEPTED INVITATION TO VISIT  
ASEAN SUMMIT AND DETAILS WOULD BE WORKED OUT THROUGH  
DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. STRESSING IMPORTANCE JAPAN  
ATTACHES TO ASEAN NATIONS, HE RECALLED HE HAS NOW  
SEEN ALL ASEAN HEADS OF STATE EXCEPT THAI PRIMIN.  
VAGUELY ENCOURAGING ON PROSPECTS FOR JAPANESE ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE TO ASEAN, HE URGED THAT JAPAN AND ASEAN SEEK  
TO EXPAND THEIR RELATIONSHIP BEYOND NARROW ECONOMIC TIES  
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AND EXPRESSED DESIRE TO EXPAND CULTURAL EXCHANGE.

5. TURNING TO DOMESTIC POLITICS, PRIMIN DENIED UNPOPULARITY OF HIS CABINET, NOTING RECENT SANKEI NEWSPAPER SURVEY WHICH SHOWED FORTY PERCENT SUPPORT RATE AND ADDITIONAL ELEVEN PERCENT WHICH MADE NO RESPONSE. ADMITTING INTERPRETATION OF THOSE RESULTS MIGHT DIFFER, HE ASSERTED TREND TOWARD SUPPORT WAS CLEAR AS A RESULT OF POPULAR RECOGNITION OF FUKUDA ADMINISTRATION SUCCESSES. ASKED ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR COALITION GOVERNMENT, FUKUDA SMILINGLY RESPONDED THAT FORMER PRIMIN MIKI HAD ADVISED HIM THAT COALITION GOVERNMENT WAS NOT GOOD FOR JAPAN BECAUSE OF ITS INHERENT INSTABILITY. THUS FUKUDA, TOO, FOUND IT UNDESIRABLE. STRESSING LDP UNITY, HE DID NOT AGREE THAT LDP WAS LIKELY TO LOSE ITS UPPER HOUSE MAJORITY IN JULY ELECTION BUT DECLINED TO MAKE ANY SPECIFIC PREDICTIONS. HE ADDED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PRE-ELECTION CABINET SHUFFLE NOR POST-ELECTION INSTABILITY.

6. ON DOMESTIC ECONOMIC SITUATION, PRIMIN SAID JAPAN HAS GENERALLY RECOVERED FROM OIL SHOCK, ALTHOUGH INDUSTRIES HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON OIL, TEXTILES, AND THOSE INDUSTRIES WHICH EXPANDED BEFORE OIL SHOCK, CONTINUE TO SUFFER. HE NOTED SUBSTANTIAL PUBLIC-WORKS EXPENDITURES NOW BEING MADE AND OPINED COUNTRY WOULD BE ON WAY TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY BY SUMMER. HE SAW NO PRESENT NEED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET AND INDICATED INFLATION (CPI) COULD BE HELD TO SEVEN PERCENT IN CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. CONCLUDING, HE PROMISED TO TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES IF BUSINESS DID NOT PICK UP IN NEXT TWO TO THREE MONTHS, BUT REITERATED HE SAW NO NEED FOR FURTHER STIMULATION AT PRESENT.

7. COMMENT. NEWS CONFERENCE ATMOSPHERE WAS GENERALLY RELAXED AND REPORTERS WERE MARKEDLY LESS AGGRESSIVE THAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DURING MIKI ERA WHEN TENSION BETWEEN PRIMIN AND JOURNALISTS WAS PALPABLE. FUKUDA FIRMNESS, MORE APPARENT ON REPROCESSING AND SOVIET FISHERIES ISSUES, IS AIMED AT FORESTALLING POSSIBLE OPPOSITION PARTY CRITICISM THAT HE HAS NOT DONE ENOUGH TO DEFEND JAPANESE INTERESTS. MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PINT, ENRG, PLOS, JA, US, UR, CH, ASEAN, (FUKUDA, TAKEO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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